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1L Oral Advocacy Competition

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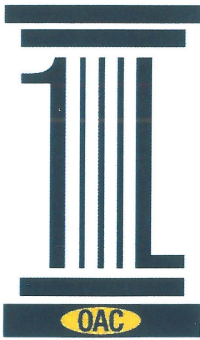


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1L ORAL ADVOCACY COMPETITION

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LAW SCHOOL

FINAL ROUND

March 31, 2016

Hutchins Hall 100

Finalists

Tara Patel, of Sylvania, Ohio

John Ramer, of Harbor Springs, Michigan

Judges

Linda Coberly, *Winston & Strawn*, Chicago

Michael McIntosh, *Skadden*, New York

Rebecca Troth, *Sidley Austin*, Washington D.C.

ROBERTS V. MARQUEST MILITARY ACADEMY

The Marquest Military Academy (MMA) is a public military college. Student-cadets at MMA must comply with rigorous physical training exercises, and the academic curriculum includes courses on military history, ethics, and leadership. Approximately 85% of MMA graduates enter military service after graduation.

The MMA first began to admit women in 1996, following the Supreme Court's decision in *United States v. Virginia*. But by 2013, women still only made up 3% of the incoming class. Female enrollment at MMA has never exceeded 5%. Roughly 30% of women drop out.

In January 2014, the state passed legislation which created an affirmative action program designed to increase the number of women at MMA. The Act authorizes a private cause of action if female enrollment does not reach reasonable levels by 2020.

In response to the Act, MMA established a point system governing admissions. There are 40 possible points; applicants who score 35 or above are automatically admitted. Female applicants receive five additional points. The point system was first implemented during the 2014-15 admissions cycle. Female enrollment increased to 4.5% of the 2015-16 class, up from 3% the prior academic year.

Michael Roberts was denied admission to MMA, after he received a score of 32. Roberts sued MMA, arguing that its admissions policy unfairly discriminated against him in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment. He also brought a facial challenge to the Act.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The 2016 1L Oral Advocacy Competition Board would like to thank everyone who has helped us make this year's Competition a success.

We would like to give a special thanks to our sponsors—Sidley Austin; Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher, Flom & Affiliates; Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz; and Winston & Strawn LLP—without whom this Competition would not be possible.

This year over 260 people participated in the Competition, including over 150 competitors and 110 student judges. We are grateful to these participants and honored to have been part of this outstanding University of Michigan Law School tradition.

Thank You!

2016 1L ORAL ADVOCACY COMPETITION BOARD

Katherine Bailey

Jacob Coate

Erika Giroux

Joe Piligian

Joseph Celentino

Lauren Dayton

Thomas Martecchini

Ben Reese

Ryan Samii

Immediately following the Final Round, please join us for a reception celebrating the 1L OAC participants hosted by Sidley Austin & Skadden.

All Final Round attendees, regardless of class year or participation in the 1L Oral Advocacy Competition, are welcome and encouraged to join.

FINAL ROUND RECEPTION

7:30 – 9:30 PM

Sava's Restaurant

216 S. State Street

Special thanks to all of our sponsors:

SIDLEY
150 YEARS

WACHTELL, LIPTON, ROSEN & KATZ

Skadden

WINSTON
& STRAWN
LLP